Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Original) A method of producing amplified RNA (aRNA), said method comprising a) reverse transcribing an RNA template using a first promoter-primer oligonucleotide ~~complex~~ comprising a first primer sequence and a first promoter sequence and an RNA dependent DNA polymerase to produce a first strand cDNA comprising the first promoter sequence in a reaction which is completed in ~~time of~~ 45 minutes or less; b) ~~optionally treating the reverse transcription product with RNAse H enzymatic activity; c)~~ producing a second strand cDNA complementary to said first strand cDNA using a DNA dependent polymerase, ~~optionally~~ in the presence of random primers to prime synthesis of said second strand cDNA, in a reaction which is completed in ~~time of~~ 45 minutes or less, to thereby produce a double stranded cDNA comprising the first promoter sequence; and ~~d)~~ c) producing amplified RNA from the double stranded cDNA by in vitro transcription using a DNA dependent RNA polymerase which initiates transcription from the first promoter sequence ~~primer of said promoter-primer complex~~; wherein after b) and before c), or after c), ~~c) and before d) above, after d) above, or both,~~ the product produced by b) or c) ~~or d)~~ is purified by contacting said product with a solid phase which binds nucleic acids followed by eluting bound nucleic acids from said solid phase in an elution volume of less than 50 microliters.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1 or~~ 2 wherein said RNA template is mRNA.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1 or~~ 2 wherein said RNA template is

in a cellular mRNA preparation.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1 or~~ 2 wherein the first primer sequence ~~said promoter-primer complex~~ comprises an oligo or poly dT sequence ~~as the primer~~.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein said oligo or poly dT sequence is at least about eight dT in length.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1 or~~ 2 wherein said random primers are six nucleotides or longer in length.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein said random primers are nine nucleotides or longer in length.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1 or~~ 2 wherein the bound nucleic acids are eluted in an elution volume of 25 microliters or less.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said elution volume is 15 microliters or less.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1 or~~ 2 wherein the first promoter sequence ~~said promoter-primer complex of a)~~ comprises a T7 promoter sequence.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1 or~~ 2 wherein said solid phase is a filter.

13. (Currently amended) The method of any one of claims ~~1,~~ 2 or 12 wherein said solid phase comprises silica.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said solid phase is glass powder, silica particles, glass fibers or microfibers, diatomaceous earth, or borosilicate glass.

15. (Original) The method of any one of the preceding claims wherein the wetting capacity of the solid phase is approximately the same as, or less than, the elution volume.

16. (Original) The method of any one of the preceding claims wherein said eluting of bound nucleic acids comprises centrifugation.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein said centrifugation is in two steps.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said two steps comprise a first step and a second step at a higher speed than said first step.

19. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein said centrifngation is without the application of a vacuum.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1 or~~ 2 wherein a) ~~and/or c)~~ or b) is conducted in a reaction which is completed in ~~time of~~ 25 minutes or less.

21. (Currently amended) The method of ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 2, wherein the amplified RNA is further amplified by a method comprising ~~e)~~ d) reverse transcribing said amplified RNA using random primers and a DNA dependent polymerase ~~for~~ in a reaction ~~time of~~ which is completed in 45 minutes or less to produce a first strand cDNA; ~~f)~~ e) producing a second strand cDNA complementary to said first strand cDNA using a second promoter-primer ~~complex~~ oligonucleotide comprising a second primer sequence and a second promoter sequence and a DNA dependent DNA polymerase ~~for~~ in a reaction ~~time of~~ which is

completed in 45 minutes or less, to thereby produce a double stranded cDNA comprising the second promoter sequence; and ~~g)~~ f) producing re-amplified RNA from the double stranded cDNA by in vitro transcription using a DNA dependent RNA polymerase which initiates transcription from the second promoter sequence ~~primer of said promoter-primer complex~~; wherein after e) and before f) or after f), ~~f) and before g) above, after g) above, or both,~~ the product produced by e) or f) ~~or g)~~ is purified by contacting said product with a solid phase which binds nucleic acids followed by eluting bound nucleic acids from said solid phase in an elution volume of less than 50 microliters.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the second promoter sequence ~~promoter-primer complex of f)~~ comprises a T3 or SP6 promoter sequence.

23. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said random primers are six nucleotides or longer in length.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein said random primers are nine nucleotides or longer in length.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein said second primer sequence ~~promoter-primer complex~~ comprises a known primer sequence.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein said known primer sequence is complementary to the 3' region of said amplified RNA.

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21, 25 or 26 wherein said second promoter-primer oligonucelotide ~~complex~~ comprises a T3 or SP6 promoter region.

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the elution of bound

nucleic acids after e) or f) ~~or g)~~ is in an elution volume of 25 microliters or less.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28 wherein said elution volume is 15 microliters or less.

30. (Currently amended) The method of any one of claims 21-29 wherein the solid phase ~~used after f) or g)~~ is a filter.

31. (Currently amended) The method of any one of claims 21-30 wherein said solid phase ~~used after f) or g)~~ comprises silica.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31 wherein said solid phase is glass powder, silica particles, glass fibers or microfibers, diatomaceous earth, or borosilicate glass.

33. (Currently amended) The method of any one of claims 21-32 wherein the wetting capacity of the solid phase phase ~~used after f) or g)~~ is approximately the same as, or less than, the elution volume.

34. (Original) The method of any one of claims 21-32 wherein said eluting of bound nucleic acids comprises centrifugation.

35. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein said centrifugation is in two steps.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35 wherein said two steps comprise a first step and a second step at a higher speed than said first step.

37. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein said centrifugation is without the application of a vacuum.

38. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein d) or e) ~~and/or f)~~ is conducted in a reaction time of 25 minutes or less.